

CONDITIONS FOR THE ENTRY OF DOGS AND CATS INTO ST. KITTS & NEVIS FROM NON-SCHEDULE COUNTRIES

1. RABIES VACCINATIONS

Animals under one year of age must receive two rabies vaccinations not less than 6 months apart with an approved monovalent killed rabies vaccine.

Adult animals that have received two or more rabies vaccinations go to section 1b.

- a. The first vaccination shall not be given to animals less than 3 months of age.
- b. The second or most recent vaccination shall be given not less than 30 days and no more than 12 months before arrival.
- c. The product name, serial or lot number, expiration date and route of administration, information for the two most recent vaccinations must be recorded on the health certificate.

2. ELECTRONIC MICROCHIP IDENTIFICATION

All animals to be imported into St. Kitts and Nevis must be identified with an AVID® or Home Again electronic microchip implant. *The microchip number must be included on all relevant documents including written application form, blood samples submitted for rabies testing and on results of the rabies tests.*

3. APPLICATION FOR IMPORT PERMIT

Apply in writing to the Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO) for import permit. The application must include the species, name, age, sex, breed, color or color pattern and microchip number.

An import permit will be issued **only after** the Veterinary Authority receives a and b below.

- a) Two Laboratory reports with Titer results ≥ 0.5 I.U./ml from the RABIES/RFFIT/FAVN Laboratory at Kansas State University. Please see section 6a-f.
- b) A health certificate issued by the Veterinary Authority of the exporting country within 30 days of the date of arrival. The health certificate must have the seal or stamp of the exporting country for international travel; and must include
 - 1) A full description of animal including implanted microchip number
 - 2) Records of last 2 rabies vaccinations including name of vaccine, lot/serial number, expiration date and route of administration.
 - 3) Last vaccination must have been administered not less than 30 days and not more than 12 months prior to the arrival date.
 - 4) A Health Certificate issued by an accredited veterinarian within 72 hours of arrival must accompany the animal on arrival.
 - 5) Failure to comply with steps 3 and 4 will result in immediate exportation of the animal or euthanasia at the airport.

6) RABIES NEUTRALIZING ANTIBODY TEST (RFFIT OR FAVN)

- a) Two Rabies Neutralizing Antibody tests (RFFIT or FAVN) on sera collected at four weeks apart must be conducted.
- b) For animals less than one year of age the first Rabies Neutralizing Antibody test (titer) must be taken one month after the second rabies vaccination.
- c) For adult animals current on rabies vaccination the first titer must be taken no less than 30 days after the most recent rabies vaccination. If the result of the first titer is negative, a booster vaccine must be given and the titer repeated again in one month.

Please note that two positive tests are required.

- d) The second test must be conducted not less than 30 days and not more than 12 months prior to arrival.
- e) The testing laboratory must submit the test results directly to: The Chief Veterinary Officer, P. O. Box 39, Veterinary Services, Department of Agriculture, Basseterre, St. Kitts, West Indies. Telephone 18694652110, Fax 18694652928.
- f) To be considered valid, the test results must include the number of the implanted microchip and complete description of the animal (age, sex, breed, color or color pattern, etc.).

LABORATORY WHERE THE PRE-ARRIVAL RFFIT/FAVN TEST IS AVAILABLE

Until further notice the only laboratory approved by the Veterinary Authority of St. Kitts and Nevis for the RFFIT/FAVN TEST is at KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY.

Dr. Deborah Briggs, Department of Pathology/Diagnostic Medicine, 1800 Denison Avenue, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506-5600.

For information on procedures please have your veterinarian call (785) 532-4483, Fax: (785) 532-42982; e-mail: Briggs @ vet.ksu.ed.